## **NEWS RELEASE**



Date: October 5, 2005

**District:** Los Angeles/Ventura

**Contact:** Judy Gish **Phone:** (213) 897-3487

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CALTRANS LAUNCHES TRASH-OFF CAMPAIGN**

LOS ANGELES/VENTURA COUNTIES— California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 participated today in a state-wide anti-litter campaign running throughout the month of October called Trash-off Day. Locally, the event involved 600 Caltrans Maintenance workers deployed for the entire day to pick up trash from District freeways.

"Litter is a \$3 million a year problem in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties," said Caltrans District 7 Director Douglas Failing. "We need motorists to dispose of their trash appropriately so that Caltrans resources can be directed toward other freeway maintenance efforts."

Caltrans crews routinely pick up every type of refuse, from empty cans to refrigerators. The amount of trash collected annually would fill the Los Angeles Coliseum.

The Department is challenging motorists to maintain the freeways following this extensive clean-up effort. Before and after pictures will be posted on the District website (<a href="www.dot.ca.gov/dist07">www.dot.ca.gov/dist07</a>). In addition to greater individual responsibility, the public also can help by getting involved in the Caltrans' Adopt-a-Highway program.

###

